GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1473
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
RE STRUCTURING OF SEBS
Krishnadas Shri N.N.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Electricity Boards in the country have been abolished or converted as companies so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request has come from any state Government requesting to continue the State Electricity Boards as it is; and

(d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) & (b) : Before enactment of the Electricity Act, 2003, various States had enacted State Electricity Reforms Acts which provided for reorganization of their State Electricity Boards (SEB).

Section 172 (a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides that the SEB shall be deemed to be the State Transmission Utility (STU) and a licensee under the provisions of the Act for a period of one year from the appointed date, i.e. 10th June, 2003.

So far, 12 states have reorganized their SEBs. Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Delhi, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh have done so under their State Electricity Reforms Acts. Assam and Maharashtra have reorganized their SEBs under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. The SEB of Assam presently continues to discharge the licensee function only for trading of electricity.

(c) & (d) : Nine States have requested the Central Government to agree for extension of time for their respective SEBs to continue as the STU and a licensee. In addition, the State of Assam has requested for extension of time for their SEB to continue with the limited function of only trading. A communication from Government of Kerala has also recently been received proposing for continuation of their SEB as such.

Section 172(a) of the Act further provides that the State Government may, by notification, authorize the State Electricity Board (SEB) to continue to function as the State Transmission Utility or a licensee for such further period beyond the period of one year of the provisions of the Act coming into force, as may be mutually decided by the Central Government and the State Government.

The Central Government has been agreeing to the requests of the State Governments from time to time for continuation of the SEBs under section 172(a) of the Electricity Act, 2003.